

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2346
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2005
GAS CONNECTIONS IN RURAL AREAS
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the policy in regard to providing LPG cooking gas connections in rural areas in the country State-wise, particularly in Karnataka ;
- (b) the places in different States including Karnataka where gas agency has not been opened despite being included in the gas agency marketing plan during the last three years alongwith the reasons therefor ;
- (c) the time by which the gas agencies at these places are likely to be opened ; and
- (d) the places at which the alternative arrangements of gas supply have been made ?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (d) : Government do not approve the Marketing Plan of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for setting up LPG distributorships. These are set up by them on commercial considerations. However, Government have advised OMCs to draw up Marketing Plans for covering semi-urban and rural areas to propagate the use of LPG in these areas. As on 1.1.2005, OMCs had commissioned 8,808 LPG distributorships in the country, including 479 distributorships in Karnataka.

OMCs have taken steps to increase the supply of LPG to rural and other low consumption areas. These include the opening of community kitchens in villages and the sale of 5 kg. LPG cylinders.